(b) if so, the details of drug companies found involved in overcharging and selling without price approval in the last two years;

(c) whether Government/NPPA have contemplated any action against such drug companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) Since the inception of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in August 1997, NPPA has raised a total demand of Rs. 1626.51 crores (up to 15.10.08) for recovery towards overcharged amount in 585 cases, under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995) read with Essential Commodities Act, 1955. NPPA has recovered Rs.131.72 crores so far (upto 15.10.08) from defaulting companies. NPPA continues to take appropriate action regularly for recovery of the overcharged amount. In some cases the recovery is affected, due to orders from the Hon'ble High Courts and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and cases presently sub-judice in Courts.

Talcher fertilizer plants

802. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been achieved in the revival of coal based fertilizer plants at Talcher in Orissa and Ramagundam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a decision has been taken to sell off these units; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Pursuant to the Government's decision to examine the feasibility of revival of the closed units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) subject to the confirmed availability of gas, various options for revival of the closed units including the coal based Talcher unit in Orissa and Ramagundam unit in Andhra Pradesh are being looked into by the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Re-opening of Durgapur and Haldia units

803. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Durgapur and Haldia units of closed fertilizer factories will be re-opening soon;

(b) if so, the details thereof, unit-wise;

(c) whether management boards have been set up for these units;